

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 07297 071225Z

53

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OC-06 CCO-00 SY-05 PM-04 DODE-00 NEAE-00

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O R 070945Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1699

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 7297

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ATRN, LE, SY

SUBJECT: UNCLASSIFIED POUCH RUNS: INSUFFICIENT SYRIAN ARMY
DOCUMENTATION AT SOFAR CHECK POINT

1. BEIRUT IS CANCELLING TODAY'S (9/7) POUCH RUN PENDING
CLARIFICATION OF DOCUMENTATION PROBLEM DESCRIBED BELOW.

2. DURING POUCH RUN ON SEPTEMBER 6, SYRIAN ARMY OFFICER
(SENIOR LT.) AT SOFAR ROADBLOCK DEMANDED FROM EMBASSY BEIRUT
DRIVERS DOCUMENTATION (LAISSE-PASSE) SUPPOSEDLY ISSUED BY THE
SYRIAN MIN. OF DEFENSE IDENTIFYING POUCHES AND AUTHORIZING
THEIR TRANSPORT FROM DAMASCUS TO BEIRUT. EMBASSY DRIVERS
MUSTAPHA AND JAMIL WERE DELAYED SIX HOURS AT SYRIAN CHECK
POINTS, BETWEEN SOFAR AND CHTAURA, AS THEY MADE ATTEMPTS TO
FIND A SENIOR ARMY OFFICER WHO WOULD GIVE THEM PERMISSION
TO PROCEED. AS IT TURNED OUT NO PERMISSION WAS GRANTED.
DRIVERS DEPARTED SOFAR DURING CONFUSION OF "CHANGING OF THE
GUARD," RETURNING TO BEIRUT AT ABOUT 1930 HOURS LOCAL.

3. BEIRUT WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY DAMASCUS CONTACTING THE
APPROPRIATE OFFICE AT THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE AND
ARRANGING FOR SUFFICIENT SYRIAN DOCUMENTATION TO PERMIT
MULTIPLE UNCLASSIFIED POUCH RUNS. OUR REGULAR WEEKLY
RUN WILL ALSO BE CARRYING UNCLASSIFIED POUCHES FOR THE
BRITISH AND WEST GERMAN EMBASSIES. WOULD APPRECIATE
ASAP AN INDICATION OF WHEN NECESSARY DOCUMENTATION WILL
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BE AVAILABLE SO THAT WE CAN RESCHEDULE POUCH RUNS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
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Draft Date: 07 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760337-0816
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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TAGS: ATRN, LE, SY
To: DAMASCUS
Type: TE
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